

Amendments to Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-4 (Cancelled).

Claims 5-11 (Withdrawn).

Claims 12-28 (Cancelled).

Claim 29. (Previously presented) An isolated DNA molecule encoding a LERK-6 polypeptide that binds hek/elk, wherein said polypeptide comprises amino acids 1 to 184 of SEQ ID NO:2.

Claim 30 (Previously presented) An isolated DNA molecule encoding a LERK-6 polypeptide that binds hek/elk, wherein said polypeptide comprises amino acids 1 to 145 of SEQ ID NO:2.

Claim 31. (Previously presented) An isolated DNA molecule encoding a LERK-6 polypeptide that binds hek/elk, wherein said polypeptide comprises amino acids 1 to 134 of SEQ ID NO:2.

Claim 32. (Previously presented) The isolated DNA molecule of Claim 29, wherein said DNA molecule comprises nucleotides 1 to 552 of SEQ ID NO:1.

Claim 33. (Previously presented) The isolated DNA molecule of Claim 30, wherein said DNA molecule comprises nucleotides 1 to 435 of SEQ ID NO:1.

Claim 34. (Previously presented) The isolated DNA molecule of Claim 31, wherein said DNA molecule comprises nucleotides 1 to 402 of SEQ ID NO:1.

Claim 35. (Previously presented) An expression vector comprising a DNA molecule of Claim 29.

Claim 36. (Previously presented) An expression vector comprising a DNA molecule of Claim 30.

- Claim 37. (Previously presented) An expression vector comprising a DNA molecule of Claim 31.
- Claim 38. (Previously presented) An expression vector comprising a DNA molecule of Claim 32.
- Claim 39. (Previously presented) An expression vector comprising a DNA molecule of Claim 33.
- Claim 40. (Previously presented) An expression vector comprising a DNA molecule of Claim 34.
- Claim 41. (Previously presented) A host cell transformed or transfected with a expression vector of Claim 35.
- Claim 42. (Previously presented) A host cell transformed or transfected with a expression vector of Claim 36.
- Claim 43. (Previously presented) A host cell transformed or transfected with a expression vector of Claim 37.
- Claim 44. (Previously presented) A host cell transformed or transfected with a expression vector of Claim 38.
- Claim 45 (Previously presented) A host cell transformed or transfected with a expression vector of Claim 39.
- Claim 46. (Previously presented) A host cell transformed or transfected with a expression vector of Claim 40.
- Claim 47. (Previously presented) A process for preparing a LERK-6 polypeptide, comprising culturing a host cell of Claim 41 under conditions promoting expression of LERK-6 polypeptide, and recovering the LERK-6 polypeptide so expressed.
- Claim 48 (Previously presented) A process for preparing a LERK-6 polypeptide, comprising culturing a host cell of Claim 42 under conditions promoting expression of LERK-6 polypeptide, and recovering the LERK-6 polypeptide so expressed.

Claim 49. (Previously presented) A process for preparing a LERK-6 polypeptide, comprising culturing a host cell of Claim 43 under conditions promoting expression of LERK-6 polypeptide, and recovering the LERK-6 polypeptide so expressed.

Claim 50. (Previously presented) A process for preparing a LERK-6 polypeptide, comprising culturing a host cell of Claim 44 under conditions promoting expression of LERK-6 polypeptide, and recovering the LERK-6 polypeptide so expressed.

Claim 51 (Previously presented) A process for preparing a LERK-6 polypeptide, comprising culturing a host cell of Claim 45 under conditions promoting expression of LERK-6 polypeptide, and recovering the LERK-6 polypeptide so expressed.

Claim 52 (Previously presented) A process for preparing a LERK-6 polypeptide, comprising culturing a host cell of Claim 46 under conditions promoting expression of LERK-6 polypeptide, and recovering the LERK-6 polypeptide so expressed.

Claim 53. (Previously presented) Recombinant phage λ gt10 vector clone λ 13M LERK-6 having ATCC No. 75829.

Claim 54. (Previously presented) The cDNA insert in recombinant phage λ gt10 vector clone λ 13M LERK-6 having ATCC No. 75829.

Claim 55. (Previously presented) An expression vector comprising the cDNA insert of claim 54.

Claim 56. (Previously presented) A host cell transformed or transfected with a expression vector of Claim 55.

Claim 57. (Previously presented) A process for preparing a LERK-6 polypeptide, comprising culturing a host cell of Claim 56 under conditions promoting expression of LERK-6 polypeptide, and recovering the LERK-6 polypeptide so expressed.

Claim 58. (Currently amended) An isolated DNA that encodes a polypeptide that is at least 80% identical to the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the polypeptide encoded by the DNA binds hek/elk.

Claim 59. (Currently amended) An isolated DNA the encodes a polypeptide that is at least 80% identical to amino acids 1-145 of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the polypeptide encoded by the DNA binds hek/elk.

Claim 60. (Currently amended) An isolated DNA the encodes a polypeptide that is at least 80% identical to amino acids 1-134 of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the polypeptide encoded by the DNA binds hek/elk.

Claim 61. (Currently amended) An isolated DNA selected from the group consisting of:

- a) DNA that hybridizes under [highly stringent] conditions of moderate stringency to the DNA of SEQ ID NO:1., and which DNA encodes a polypeptide that binds hek/elk and which conditions include a prewashing solution of 5 X SSC, 0.5% SDS, 1.0 mM EDTA (pH 8.0) and hybridization at about 55°C, 5 X SSC, overnight.
- b) DNA that hybridizes under [highly stringent] conditions of moderate stringency to the nucleotides 1-402 of SEQ ID NO:1., and which DNA encodes a polypeptide that binds hek/elk and which conditions include a prewashing solution of 5 X SSC, 0.5% SDS, 1.0 mM EDTA (pH 8.0) and hybridization at about 55°C, 5 X SSC, overnight.
- c) DNA that hybridizes under [highly stringent] conditions of moderate stringency to nucleotides 1-435 of SEQ ID NO:1., and which DNA encodes a polypeptide that binds hek/elk and which conditions include a prewashing solution of 5 X SSC, 0.5% SDS, 1.0 mM EDTA (pH 8.0) and hybridization at about 55°C, 5 X SSC, overnight.